

Committee: JUD  
LA: JS  
LR (item): 1056(xx)  
New Title? Yes  
Add Emergency? no  
Date: February 10, 2022

**PROPOSED COMMITTEE AMENDMENT**

Representative Newell (sponsor)

2/14/2022 1:14 PM - corrected

File Name: G:\COMMITTEES\JUD\BILL WORKING FILES\130th\LD 906\Amendment for PH drafts\Sponsor\_s Proposed Amendment to LD 906 (2.1422) - third time is the charm.docx

**Committee Amendment “ ” to LD 906, An Act to Provide Passamaquoddy Tribal Members Access to Clean Water**

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

**Sec. 1. P&SL 1983, c.25, §15,** is repealed.

**Sec. 2. 30 MRSA §6205, sub-§1,** as amended by PL 2013, c. 91, §§1 and 2 and affected by §3, is further amended to read:

**1. Passamaquoddy Indian territory.** Subject to subsections 3, 4 and 5, the following lands within the State are known as the "Passamaquoddy Indian territory:"

A. The Passamaquoddy Indian Reservation;

B. The first 150,000 acres of land acquired by the secretary for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe from the following areas or lands to the extent that those lands are not held in common with any other person or entity and are certified by the secretary as held for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe:

The lands of Great Northern Nekoosa Corporation located in T.1, R.8, W.B.K.P. (Lowelltown), T.6, R.1, N.B.K.P. (Holeb), T.2, R.10, W.E.L.S. and T.2, R.9, W.E.L.S.; the land of Raymidga Company located in T.1, R.5, W.B.K.P. (Jim Pond), T.4, R.5, B.K.P.W.K.R. (King and Bartlett), T.5, R.6, B.K.P.W.K.R. and T.3, R.5, B.K.P.W.K.R.; the land of the heirs of David Pingree located in T.6, R.8, W.E.L.S.; any portion of Sugar Island in Moosehead Lake; the lands of Prentiss and Carlisle Company located in T.9, S.D.; any portion of T.24, M.D.B.P.P.; the lands of Bertram C. Tackeff or Northeastern Blueberry Company, Inc. in T.19, M.D.B.P.P.; any portion of T.2, R.8, N.W.P.; any portion of T.2, R.5, W.B.K.P. (Alder Stream); the lands of Dead River Company in T.3, R.9, N.W.P., T.2, R.9, N.W.P., T.5, R.1, N.B.P.P. and T.5, N.D.B.P.P.; any portion of T.3, R.1, N.B.P.P.; any portion of T.3, N.D.; any portion of T.4, N.D.; any portion of T.39, M.D.; any portion of T.40, M.D.; any portion of T.41, M.D.; any portion of T.42, M.D.B.P.P.; the lands of Diamond International Corporation, International Paper Company and Lincoln Pulp and Paper Company located in Argyle; and the lands of the Dyer Interests in T.A.R.7 W.E.L.S., T.3 R.9 N.W.P., T.3 R.3. N.B.K.P. (Alder Brook Township), T.3 R.4 N.B.K.P. (Hammond Township), T.2 R.4 N.B.K.P. (Pittston Academy Grant), T.2 R.3 N.B.K.P. (Soldiertown Township), and T.4 R.4 N.B.K.P. (Prentiss Township), and any lands in Albany Township acquired by the Passamaquoddy Tribe;

C. Any land not exceeding 100 acres in the City of Calais acquired by the secretary for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe as long as the land is not held in common with any other person or entity and is certified by the secretary as held for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, if:

(1) The acquisition of the land by the tribe is approved by the legislative body of that city; and

(2) A tribal-state compact under the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act is agreed to by the State and the Passamaquoddy Tribe or the State is ordered by a court to negotiate such a compact;

D. All land acquired by the secretary for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe in T. 19, M.D. to the extent that the land is not held in common with any other person or entity and is certified by the secretary as held for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe;

D-1. Land acquired by the secretary for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe in Centerville consisting of Parcels A, B and C conveyed by Bertram C. Tackeff to the Passamaquoddy Tribe by quitclaim deed dated July 27, 1981, recorded in the Washington County Registry of Deeds in Book 1147, Page 251, to the extent that the land is not held in common with any other person or entity and is certified by the secretary as held for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe;

D-2. Land acquired by the secretary for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe in Centerville conveyed by Bertram C. Tackeff to the Passamaquoddy Tribe by quitclaim deed dated May 4, 1982, recorded in the Washington County Registry of Deeds in Book 1178, Page 35, to the extent that the land is not held in common with any other person or entity and is certified by the secretary as held for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe; and

E. Land acquired by the secretary for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe in Township 21 consisting of Gordon Island in Big Lake, conveyed by Domtar Maine Corporation to the Passamaquoddy Tribe by corporate quitclaim deed dated April 30, 2002, recorded in the Washington County Registry of Deeds in Book 2624, Page 301, to the extent that the land is not held in common with any other person or entity and is certified by the secretary as held for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe;

F. Land acquired by the secretary for the benefit of the Passamaquoddy Tribe in Perry consisting of:

(1) Land conveyed by Denise E. Plouffe to the Passamaquoddy Tribe by quitclaim deed dated October 5, 2017, recorded in the Washington County Registry of Deeds in Book 4403, Pages 18-19; and

(2) Land conveyed by Austin Humphries to the Passamaquoddy Tribe by deed dated November 18, 1983, recorded in the Washington County Registry of Deeds in Book 1252, Pages 93-95.

Notwithstanding subsection 5 and any other provision of this Act to the contrary, the addition of land to the Passamaquoddy Indian Territory pursuant to this paragraph is not subject to approval by any city, town, village or plantation within the State;

**Sec. 3. 30 MRSA §6205, sub-§5** as amended by PL 2013, c. 91, §§1 and 2 and affected by §3, is further amended to read:

**5. Limitations.** No lands held or acquired by or in trust for the Passamaquoddy Tribe or the Penobscot Nation, other than those described in subsections 1, 2, 3 and 4, shall be included within or added to the Passamaquoddy Indian territory or the Penobscot Indian territory except upon recommendation of the commission and approval of the State to be given in the manner required for the enactment of laws by the Legislature and Governor of Maine, provided, however, that no lands within any city, town, village or plantation, shall be added to either the Passamaquoddy Indian territory or the Penobscot Indian territory without approval of the legislative body of said city, town, village or plantation in addition to the approval of the State except as described in subsection 2, paragraph F.

Any lands within the Passamaquoddy Indian territory or the Penobscot Indian territory, the fee to which is transferred to any person who is not a member of the respective tribe or nation, shall cease to constitute a portion of Indian territory and shall revert to its status prior to the inclusion thereof within Indian territory.

**Sec. 4. 30 MRSA § 6206, sub-§1** is amended to read:

**1. General Powers.** Except as otherwise provided in this Act, the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Penobscot Nation, within their respective Indian territories, shall have, exercise and enjoy all the rights, privileges, powers

and immunities, including, but without limitation, the power to enact ordinances and collect taxes, and shall be subject to all the duties, obligations, liabilities and limitations of a municipality of and subject to the laws of the State, provided, however, that internal tribal matters, including membership in the respective tribe or nation, the right to reside within the respective Indian territories, tribal organization, tribal government, tribal elections, ~~and the use or disposition of settlement fund income and the exercise of power pursuant to sections 6207, subsection 10, 6207-A, and 6209-A, subsection 1, paragraph F of this Act~~ shall not be subject to regulation by the State. The Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Penobscot Nation shall designate such officers and officials as are necessary to implement and administer those laws of the State applicable to the respective Indian territories and the residents thereof. Any resident of the Passamaquoddy Indian territory or the Penobscot Indian territory who is not a member of the respective tribe or nation nonetheless shall be equally entitled to receive any municipal or governmental services provided by the respective tribe or nation or by the State, except those services which are provided exclusively to members of the respective tribe or nation pursuant to state or federal law, and shall be entitled to vote in national, state and county elections in the same manner as any tribal member residing within Indian territory.

**Sec. 5. 30 MRSA §6207**, as amended by PL 1997, c. 739, §12 and affected by §§13 and 14, is further amended to read:

**§6207. Regulation of ~~fish and wildlife~~ natural resources**

**1. Adoption of hunting, trapping and fishing ordinances by the tribe or nation.** Subject to the limitations of subsection 6, the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Penobscot Nation each shall have exclusive authority within their respective Indian territories to promulgate and enact ordinances regulating:

- A. Hunting, trapping or other taking of wildlife; and
- B. Taking of fish on any pond in which all the shoreline and all submerged lands are wholly within Indian territory and which is less than 10 acres in surface area.

Such ordinances shall be equally applicable, on a nondiscriminatory basis, to all persons regardless of whether such person is a member of the respective tribe or nation provided, however, that subject to the limitations of subsection 6, such ordinances may include special provisions for the sustenance of the individual members of the Passamaquoddy Tribe or the Penobscot Nation. In addition to the authority provided by this subsection, the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Penobscot Nation, subject to the limitations of subsection 6, may exercise within their respective Indian territories all the rights incident to ownership of land under the laws of the State.

**2. Registration stations.** The Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Penobscot Nation shall establish and maintain registration stations for the purpose of registering bear, moose, deer and other wildlife killed within their respective Indian territories and shall adopt ordinances requiring registration of such wildlife to the extent and in substantially the same manner as such wildlife are required to be registered under the laws of the State. These ordinances requiring registration shall be equally applicable to all persons without distinction based on tribal membership. The Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Penobscot Nation shall report the deer, moose, bear and other wildlife killed and registered within their respective Indian territories to the Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife of the State at such times as the commissioner deems appropriate. The records of registration of the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Penobscot Nation shall be available, at all times, for inspection and examination by the commissioner.

**3. Adoption of regulations by the commission.** Subject to the limitations of subsection 6, the commission shall have exclusive authority to promulgate fishing rules or regulations on:

- A. Any pond other than those specified in subsection 1, paragraph B, 50% or more of the linear shoreline of which is within Indian territory;

B. Any section of a river or stream both sides of which are within Indian territory; and

C. Any section of a river or stream one side of which is within Indian territory for a continuous length of 1/2 mile or more.

In promulgating such rules or regulations the commission shall consider and balance the need to preserve and protect existing and future sport and commercial fisheries, the historical non-Indian fishing interests, the needs or desires of the tribes to establish fishery practices for the sustenance of the tribes or to contribute to the economic independence of the tribes, the traditional fishing techniques employed by and ceremonial practices of Indians in Maine and the ecological interrelationship between the fishery regulated by the commission and other fisheries throughout the State. Such regulation may include without limitation provisions on the method, manner, bag and size limits and season for fishing.

Said rules or regulations shall be equally applicable on a nondiscriminatory basis to all persons regardless of whether such person is a member of the Passamaquoddy Tribe or Penobscot Nation. Rules and regulations promulgated by the commission may include the imposition of fees and permits or license requirements on users of such waters other than members of the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Penobscot Nation. In adopting rules or regulations pursuant to this subsection, the commission shall comply with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act.

In order to provide an orderly transition of regulatory authority, all fishing laws and rules and regulations of the State shall remain applicable to all waters specified in this subsection until such time as the commission certifies to the commissioner that it has met and voted to adopt its own rules and regulations in substitution for such laws and rules and regulations of the State.

**3-A. Horsepower and use of motors.** Subject to the limitations of subsection 6, the commission has exclusive authority to adopt rules to regulate the horsepower and use of motors on waters less than 200 acres in surface area and entirely within Indian territory.

**4. Sustenance fishing within the Indian reservations.** Notwithstanding any rule or regulation promulgated by the commission or any other law of the State, the members of the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Penobscot Nation may take fish, within the boundaries of their respective Indian reservations, for their individual sustenance subject to the limitations of subsection 6.

**5. Posting.** Lands or waters subject to regulation by the commission, the Passamaquoddy Tribe or the Penobscot Nation shall be conspicuously posted in such a manner as to provide reasonable notice to the public of the limitations on hunting, trapping, fishing or other use of such lands or waters.

**6. Supervision by Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.** The Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, or his successor, shall be entitled to conduct fish and wildlife surveys within the Indian territories and on waters subject to the jurisdiction of the commission to the same extent as he is authorized to do so in other areas of the State. Before conducting any such survey the commissioner shall provide reasonable advance notice to the respective tribe or nation and afford it a reasonable opportunity to participate in such survey. If the commissioner, at any time, has reasonable grounds to believe that a tribal ordinance or commission regulation adopted under this section, or the absence of such a tribal ordinance or commission regulation, is adversely affecting or is likely to adversely affect the stock of any fish or wildlife on lands or waters outside the boundaries of land or waters subject to regulation by the commission, the Passamaquoddy Tribe or the Penobscot Nation, he shall inform the governing body of the tribe or nation or the commission, as is appropriate, of his opinion and attempt to develop appropriate remedial standards in consultation with the tribe or nation or the commission. If such efforts fail, he may call a public hearing to investigate the matter further. Any such hearing shall be conducted in a manner consistent with the laws of the State applicable to adjudicative hearings. If, after hearing, the commissioner determines that any such ordinance, rule or regulation, or the absence of an ordinance,

rule or regulation, is causing, or there is a reasonable likelihood that it will cause, a significant depletion of fish or wildlife stocks on lands or waters outside the boundaries of lands or waters subject to regulation by the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Penobscot Nation or the commission, he may adopt appropriate remedial measures including rescission of any such ordinance, rule or regulation and, in lieu thereof, order the enforcement of the generally applicable laws or regulations of the State. In adopting any remedial measures the commission shall utilize the least restrictive means possible to prevent a substantial diminution of the stocks in question and shall take into consideration the effect that non-Indian practices on non-Indian lands or waters are having on such stocks. In no event shall such remedial measure be more restrictive than those which the commissioner could impose if the area in question was not within Indian territory or waters subject to commission regulation.

In any administrative proceeding under this section the burden of proof shall be on the commissioner. The decision of the commissioner may be appealed in the manner provided by the laws of the State for judicial review of administrative action and shall be sustained only if supported by substantial evidence.

**7. Transportation of game.** Fish lawfully taken within Indian territory or in waters subject to commission regulation and wildlife lawfully taken within Indian territory and registered pursuant to ordinances adopted by the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Penobscot Nation, may be transported within the State.

**8. Fish and wildlife on non-Indian lands.** The commission shall undertake appropriate studies, consult with the Passamaquoddy Tribe and the Penobscot Nation and landowners and state officials, and make recommendations to the commissioner and the Legislature with respect to implementation of fish and wildlife management policies on non-Indian lands in order to protect fish and wildlife stocks on lands and water subject to regulation by the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Penobscot Nation or the commission.

**9. Fish.** As used in this section, the term "fish" means a cold blooded completely aquatic vertebrate animal having permanent fins, gills and an elongated streamlined body usually covered with scales and includes inland fish and anadromous and catadromous fish when in inland water.

**10. Regulation of drinking water.** Unless the Passamaquoddy Tribe, in its discretion, enters into an inter-governmental agreement authorizing the State of Maine to exercise concurrent jurisdiction over specific drinking water related issues within the Passamaquoddy Indian Territory:

A. The Passamaquoddy Tribe has exclusive authority to adopt ordinances regulating drinking water within Passamaquoddy Indian Territory;

B. The State may not seek primary enforcement authority from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to implement the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 United States Code, Sections 300f to 300j-27 and its implementing regulations, as amended, within the Passamaquoddy Indian territory; and

C. The Passamaquoddy Tribe may seek to be treated as a state and to obtain primary enforcement authority from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to implement the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 United States Code, Sections 300f to 300j-27 and its implementing regulations, as amended, within the Passamaquoddy Indian territory.

**Sec. 6. 30 MRSA §6207-A is enacted to read:**

**§6207-A. Jurisdiction of the Passamaquoddy Tribe over drinking water within the Passamaquoddy Indian Territory**



Notwithstanding any other provision of state law to the contrary, pursuant to the federal Maine Indian Claims Settlement Act of 1980, Public Law 96-420, Section 6(e)(1), the State and the Passamaquoddy Tribe agree and establish that:

**1. Jurisdiction of Passamaquoddy Tribe to administer drinking water-related programs.** The Passamaquoddy Tribe may seek to be treated as a state pursuant to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 United States Code Section 300j-11, and its implementing regulations, as amended, within the Passamaquoddy Indian territory and may otherwise benefit from and exercise jurisdiction under any other federal law enacted after October 10, 1980 that permits a federally-recognized Indian tribe to administer drinking water-related programs; and

**2. Administration of drinking water-related programs does not affect or preempt state law.** The application of any provision of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 United States Code, Sections 300f to 300j-27 and its implementing regulations, as amended, and of any other federal law enacted after October 10, 1980 that permits a federally recognized-Indian tribe to administer drinking water-related programs, and the enforcement of such laws and regulations by the Passamaquoddy Tribe under paragraph A does not affect or preempt the laws of the State.

**Sec. 7. 30 MRSA §6209-A, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 2019, c. 621, Pt. D, §§1 to 4 and affected by §5, is further amended to read:

**1. Exclusive jurisdiction over certain matters.** Except as provided in subsections 3 and 4, the Passamaquoddy Tribe has the right to exercise exclusive jurisdiction, separate and distinct from the State, over:

A. Criminal offenses for which the maximum potential term of imprisonment is less than one year and the maximum potential fine does not exceed \$5,000 and that are committed on the Indian reservation of the Passamaquoddy Tribe by a member of any federally recognized Indian tribe, nation, band or other group, except when committed against a person who is not a member of any federally recognized Indian tribe, nation, band or other group or against the property of a person who is not a member of any federally recognized Indian tribe, nation, band or other group;

B. Juvenile crimes against a person or property involving conduct that, if committed by an adult, would fall within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Passamaquoddy Tribe under paragraph A, and juvenile crimes, as defined in Title 15, section 3103, subsection 1, paragraphs B and C, committed by a juvenile member of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians or the Penobscot Nation on the reservation of the Passamaquoddy Tribe;

C. Civil actions between members of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians or the Penobscot Nation arising on the Indian reservation of the Passamaquoddy Tribe and cognizable as small claims under the laws of the State, and civil actions against a member of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians or the Penobscot Nation under Title 22, section 2383 involving conduct on the Indian reservation of the Passamaquoddy Tribe by a member of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians or the Penobscot Nation;

D. Indian child custody proceedings to the extent authorized by applicable federal law; ~~and~~

E. Other domestic relations matters, including marriage, divorce and support, between members of the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians or the Penobscot Nation, both of whom reside within the Indian reservation of the Passamaquoddy Tribe; ~~and~~

F. Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection, civil and criminal actions regarding the enforcement of ordinances enacted pursuant to section 6207, subsection 10.

The governing body of the Passamaquoddy Tribe shall decide whether to exercise or terminate the exercise of the exclusive jurisdiction authorized by this subsection. If the Passamaquoddy Tribe chooses not to exercise, or chooses to terminate its exercise of, jurisdiction over the criminal, juvenile, civil and domestic matters described in this subsection, the State has exclusive jurisdiction over those matters. Except as provided in paragraphs A and B, all laws of the State relating to criminal offenses and juvenile crimes apply within the Passamaquoddy Indian reservation and the State has exclusive jurisdiction over those offenses and crimes.

**Sec. 8. Contingent effective date; certification.** This Act does not take effect unless, within 60 days after adjournment of the Second Regular Session of the 130th Legislature, the Secretary of State receives written certification by the Joint Tribal Council of the Passamaquoddy Tribe that the tribe has agreed to the provisions of this Act, copies of which must be submitted by the Secretary of State to the Secretary of the Senate, the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Revisor of Statutes.

### SUMMARY

This amendment strikes and replaces the bill, which is a concept draft. The intent of this amendment is to improve access to safe drinking water for the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point and surrounding communities. The amendment exempts the property of the Passamaquoddy Water District, which is a non-tribal entity, from taxation by municipal governments. It also authorizes two parcels of tribally owned fee land in close proximity to the existing Passamaquoddy Indian territory to be added to the territory through the federal trust acquisition process, without local approval, in order to provide access to alternate supplies of groundwater. Finally, it authorizes the Passamaquoddy Tribe to regulate drinking water standards to the extent permitted under federal law.